

Annual Flowering Plants

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PINKS (Dianthus)

The large and varied genus of dianthus contains some of our most beautiful and most profitable flowers. The most of them are hardy perennials that bloom freely the first season, the plants remaining green all winter and blossoming the next year also if lightly protected by a mulch of straw, cut fodder, or leaves. Old plants flower the earliest, but as young ones give the largest, finest flowers, sowings are made every year. Seed can be sown under glass or in an open sheltered bed in March. The seedlings are easily transplanted and should stand eight to twelve inches apart; dwarf



Carnation Pink.

ones, about six inches. If especially large, brilliant flowers are desired, a bed of well-mixed turfy loam, leaf-mold, and well-decayed manure should be prepared for them. Good drainage should be provided, as the plants are impatient of too much moisture and are more liable to winter-kill in moist than in well-drained situations. In fact, the plant is hardy to severe cold, but succumbs when exposed to low temperatures in wet places.

The Carnation Pink.—This plant, dianthus caryophyllus, which is the forcing carnation of the American florist, can be grown from seeds sown early in the season in hotbeds, the young plants being given frequent shifts to pots of increased size as they grow, until all danger of frost is past and the growing season is well on, when they may be transferred to the border where they are to bloom. If they are given a rich soil and an abundance of moisture, the bloom will more than repay the extra trouble taken. Seedling plants are more variable in character than plants propagated from cuttings, and for that reason are not well suited for commercial purposes.

On the continent of Europe this type of dianthus is more commonly used as a garden annual than in America. The form known as "Marguerite carnation," which has recently come into popular favor, is well adapted to cultivation as an annual. The majority of its flowers come double, and it has a pleasing habit of growth.

Sweet William.—The sweet william, dianthus barbatus, which is to be found in every grandmother's garden, is one of the most satisfactory members of this group for annual planting. While seed can be sown in the open early in the season, about corn-planting time, the best results in the way of early bloom come from plants pro-



Scotch or Grass Pink.

duced from seeds sown in a hotbed not later than the 10th of March in the latitude of New York, the young plants being pricked out into flats, or, preferably, into thumb pots, and later shifted to three-inch pots before planting in the flowering border. The outside planting of hotbed-grown plants should be delayed until the season has advanced sufficiently to prevent the

plants suffering from a check by cold after being placed in the open. The pot-grown plants should be set at least ten inches apart and seedlings from seeds sown in the open had best be thinned to stand at least eight inches apart.

The Scotch Pink, or Grass Pink.—The Scotch pink, dianthus plumarius, is a hardy dianthus, which, when treated as an annual in like manner as the sweet william, gives very satisfactory results. The delicately fringed, variously colored, fragrant flowers give the plants an odd yet attractive appearance.

The flowers of all the plants of this group are most satisfactory for bouquets and table decorations because of the length of time they will keep in a fresh and attractive condition after being cut and placed in water.

BALSAM (Impatiens Balsamina)

A native of India, the garden balsam loves a hot sun, rich soil, and plenty of water. The young plants are quick, sure growers, and from seed sown in the open ground in May soon form handsome bushes thickly massed with large, rose-like flowers. Transplanting two or three times has a tendency to dwarf the plants into better shape and to make the flowers more double. Balsams are not often given room for perfect development; they will easily cover 12 to 18 inches of space each way. For the finest flowers choice seed is more than usually essential, for cultivation and selection have wrought wonders with this plant. The one objection to the balsam is its habit of producing its flowers as it were, on the underside of the leaves, or inside the plant. While the individual flowers are beautiful, the obscure manner in which they are borne detracts considerably from the value of the plants. When used at the margin of groups or to crown a terrace they are shown at best advantage.

For early bloom the seeds should be sown about the middle of March in a gentle hotbed or in the dwelling house. As soon as the first true leaves have developed the young plants should be transplanted to thumb pots or to boxes where they will stand about two inches apart each way. An abundance of light and water is at all times neces-



Balsam.

sary with these plants. Care should be exercised to prevent them from becoming drawn, as stocky, symmetrical plants produce the best flowers.

Granddaughter of George III.

A woman who had lived through momentous periods of European history, the Dowager Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, died the other day at the advanced age of ninety-seven. She was a granddaughter of George III of England. Born in 1819, she was married at twenty-four, and outlived both her husband and her son, who were successively grand dukes of Mecklenburg-Strelitz.—Outlook.

Difficult to Translate.

A correspondent sends me another story of the difficulties attending the translation of Biblical metaphors into the Eskimo language. "A missionary talking to his converts-to-be had occasion to refer to the 'everlasting crown of glory.' The language did not permit of the precise rendering, so the phrase was turned by the interpreter into the 'beautiful old hat which will never wear out.'—London Observer.

Locates Well Trouble.

When a 1,400-foot well in a western town was yielding impure water, the superintendent of the water works wondered how he could locate the trouble. Finally he decided to lower a cluster of electric lights into the well, and to follow them by the aid of a fieldglass. The trouble was located at a depth of 110 feet, where loose packing permitted surface water to enter.

Long on Conversation.

"Some men," said Uncle Eben, "loves der country same as dey loves der families. Dey tries to entertain 'em wif conversation, 'stid o' workin' fur 'em."

MURDER A LA MODE

"Bad Men" of Gotham Have Various Ways of Gaining Ends.

Artistic Methods of the Camorra and Mafia in Sharp Contrast With Crude Customs of the Docks.

Here's how the different "bad men" of Manhattan engage in the pleasant pastime of "bumping 'em off."

Along the water fronts, where many a man is sent to the happy hunting ground each year, the thugs are not artistic. In this section of town live the rough-and-tumble fighters of the docks. A blow from an iron fist, a knife in the back or a belaying pin over the "coco" serves its purpose, generally followed by the hasty descent of the victim into the river.

In the Mulberry Bend district, however, where the Camorra and the Mafia strike terror into the hearts of the Italian-born citizens, there is an artistic element that enters into the execution of a crime. The busy streets thronged with people will be jammed to capacity when the news of a shooting or the swift keen message of the Camorra is discovered. Upon the arrival of the police, no matter how many people may have witnessed the actual performance of the crime, there can never be found anyone who knows the least about it.

The vengeance of the secret society is swift and cruel. Its very mystery is more mysterious because you can never get an Italian to admit any such organization exists, and if one man is secured who was seen to commit the crime the Camorra can find a dozen to swear that the culprit was miles away at the time of the shooting.

In Chinatown death also comes swiftly and silently, but the native population sneaks for home the minute a crime is committed. Streets that a minute before were jammed with Celestials will empty in an instant, and except for slant eyes peeping through closed blinds no Chinese can be seen 60 seconds after the news of a murder is flashed by some mystical method, through the quarter.

Murder in Chinatown is generally the vengeance of a tong against a member of some rival tong. Chinese, as a rule, take little personal vengeance without the backing of their own particular fraternal order. Their weapons are the ax, a "45" or native knife.

In some of the other Oriental sections of the city poison is the means of removing an obstacle from the path. Little information is ever gained of the activities of the Balkan black-legs which frequent certain portions of the city. Since the start of the European war there are more crimes of Balkan origin than ever before, for it is from this class of cutthroat that the "third section" or underground secret spy system of several European countries is recruited.

Uptown, between One Hundred and Sixteenth and One Hundred and Fortieth streets, where the negroes congregate, the favorite weapon is the razor. Throughout Harlem the "gun-fighter" lurks, while over in the gas tank region a man comes to his end by the medium of the blackjack or a short piece of lead pipe.

Back Yard Agriculture.

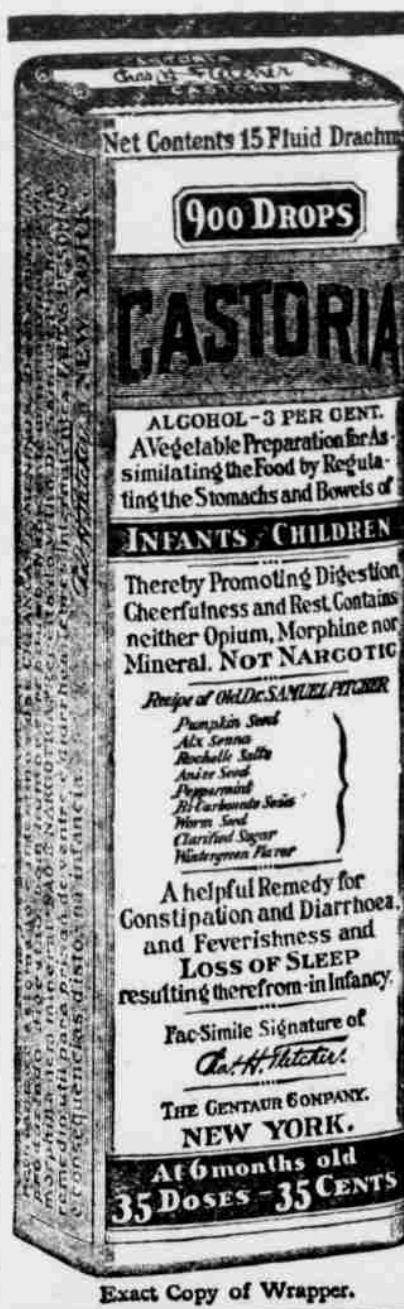
A movement for "back-yard agriculture," inaugurated in Ontario, should be extended to this country, says the Providence Bulletin. It is not necessary to have a large tract of land for gardening. Much can be done at small expense on a city yard of ordinary size. An area of 40 by 50 feet is worth cultivating. Tomatoes, lettuce, radishes, beans and onions, all valuable food products, can be grown within the limits of a house lot. "Back-yard agriculture" will not support the people, but it will add materially to the food supplies of the country, and thus will have effect upon prices.

To Develop Vast Coal Field.

Not only is Longyear City the most northerly mining town, but it bids fair to become a place of importance, now that a Norwegian company has taken over the vast coal fields of Spitzbergen. The enterprise is on a very large scale. The coal fields which the Norwegian company will develop cover an area of over 656 square miles, of which one-seventh has been surveyed, and it is estimated that this alone will yield something like 100,000,000 tons of coal from the first stratum, and the second stratum will probably yield as much more. There are other coal veins of which little is yet known. The enterprise is regarded as a national one, and eventually thousands of miners will be employed.

Checking the Dentist.

The next time we get a bill from our dentist, whom we esteem fully as highly as we possibly could esteem any dentist, we are going to send it back with a request that he itemize it, showing how much of the time we are charged with was devoted to work and how much to conversation.—Columbus (O.) Journal



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For Infants and Children.

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CURES THE SICK

And prevents others having the disease no matter how exposed. 50 cents and \$1 a bottle, \$5 and \$10 a dozen bottles. All good druggists and turf goods houses.

SPORN MEDICAL CO.
Chemists and Bacteriologists, Goshen, Ind., U. S. A.

Not Prossed.

Victim—He done me out of ten dollars, judge.

Judge—Release the prisoner. The act charged against him is grammatically impossible. Call the next case.

YES! MAGICALLY! CORNS LIFT OUT WITH FINGERS

You say to the drug store man, "Give me a small bottle of freezone." This will cost very little but will positively remove every hard or soft corn or callus from one's feet.

A few drops of this new ether compound applied directly upon a tender, aching corn relieves the soreness instantly, and soon the entire corn or callus, root and all, dries up and can be lifted off with the fingers.

This new way to rid one's feet of corns was introduced by a Cincinnati man, who says that freezone dries in a moment, and simply shrivels up the corn or callus without irritating the surrounding skin.

If your druggist hasn't any freezone tell him to order a small bottle from his wholesale drug house for you.—adv.

The Chicken Only.

Homely Aunt—Do you suppose those young men are following us?

Pretty Niece—One of us, auntie.

Culinary Dialogue.

"How do you cook pork and beans?"
"That isn't the question. How do you get 'em?"

These Are War Times.

A Princeton gardener, when asked by the "war" committee to plant beans, replied: "Why, there's going to be so many beans and people will be so sick of them this winter that you'll have to run a man down, tie him and feed 'em to him like pills to get the beans disposed of."

"Let me tell you, old man," said a bystander, "you and a lot of other people in the next year are going to learn to 'love' a great many things—beans included—that you may not think much of now."—Indianapolis News.

FRECKLES

Now Is the Time to Get Rid of These Ugly Spots.

There's no longer the slightest need of feeling ashamed of your freckles, as the prescription ointment—double strength—guaranteed to remove these homely spots. Simply get an ounce of ointment—double strength—from your druggist, and apply a little of it night and morning and you should soon see that even the worst freckles have begun to disappear, while the lighter ones have vanished entirely. It is seldom that more than one ounce is needed to completely clear the skin and gain a beautiful clear complexion.

Be sure to ask for the double strength ointment, as this is sold under guarantee of money back if it fails to remove freckles.—Adv.

Pot and Kettle.

Wife—You don't realize how miserably weak you are. Why, you can't pass a saloon without going in.

Hub—And you can't pass a millinery shop.

If your eyes smart or feel scalded, Roman Eye Balm applied upon going to bed is just the thing to relieve them. Adv.

Polish mirrors with a cloth soaked in alcohol, followed by a soft, dry cloth.

The race is not always to the swift and it is never to the loafer.



Carter's Little Liver Pills For Constipation

A vegetable remedy that always gives prompt relief in constipation. Banishes that tired feeling altogether and puts you right over-night, stimulates the liver gently, but quickly restoring it to full and healthy action, and the stomach and bowels to their natural functions. Making life worth living.

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Genuine
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ROSY CHEEKS or HEALTHY COLOR indicates Iron in the Blood. Pale or colorless faces usually show its absence. A condition which will be much helped by

CARTER'S IRON PILLS